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Thursday, Sept. 15, 1881.

IN READING of the typhoon at Shanghai we can at least ease our own anxiety by remembering that America has no ships to be typhooned.

FIRST IT WAS the whisky that was scarce, then it was the water, and now it is the lemons. If anything happens to the sugar what will become of us?

A MOB IS A very ugly thing to touch, and yet the only way to handle it without gloves. They seem to be taking this wise course down in New Orleans with success.

THEY SAY that the President is so well up in sea tactics that he can't be fooled about the course of a vessel. This is natural. A great many years ago he shipped before the mast—forty yards before the mast, on a mule.

R. DOUGLAS BUCHANAN is the name of the gentleman who married Mr. Tilden's niece the other day. Uncle Samuel was confined in his room during the ceremony, no doubt overcome by the size of the check he had just signed.

HENDRICK B. WRIGHT, the deceased Congressman, left directions in his will for a slab of Quincy granite, 51 feet high and 12 inches thick. If it should happen to be two inches wider Mr. Wright would resume his old habit—rise and object.

A CELEBRATED electrician explains that the semi-occasional friendship which occurs between a dog and a cat can always be traced to the fact that the dog has the rheumatism, and applies to the cat as an electric doctor. This reads like a very neat business puff.

A BOSTON JOURNAL kindly restrains itself, but cannot help remarking that it would be good fun to analyze the antecedents of the class at Newport which arrogates to itself the honor of being "the first society in America." It must be inferred that Bostonians prefer Mount Desert.

MANTEUCCI, a young Italian, has made a diagonal cut through the African continent, from the northeast to the southwest. He came out at Cape Coast Castle after four years so totally exhausted by his adventure that he has just died in London on his way home to Italy. All the Italian residents of London followed him barchanded to the grave.

WE FEEL AUTHORIZED to DENOUNCE as untrue and malicious the statement in one of the New York papers that Billy Cook was indisposed during his late visit to Long Branch. It is true that William appeared somewhat emaciated the morning after he got there; but that was because some of the boys inveigled him into the surf for a bath, whereby William is said to have lost about twenty-five pounds weight. But a subsequent medical examination resulted in the following highly satisfactory bulletin:

Pulse, 50; temperature, 80; respiration, 4-11-44.
William is now entirely convalescent.

COMMISSIONER DUNDY says it will take \$550,000 to pay the pensions this year, or \$20,000,000 more than last year. This is the fearful legacy left us by the Democratic originated war.—Fort Wayne Gazette.

Well, not exactly. It is the fearful legacy left us by a Democratic Congress, engineered by a Democratic federal general upon the understanding that an outlay of \$30,000,000 would cancel the entire debt. But the Republican party contains so many gentlemen who fought for a pension instead of for their country, that claims have been inflated to the above alarming figure. It only remains to add, Mr. Gazette, that your own Tom Browne thinks it a gigantic fraud.

AN INTERESTING RELIC of slavery days has been found in Wabash, Indiana. It is one of the stations on the famous old Underground Railroad, and is located two miles south of the city. The building stands on a hill overlooking the Lafontaine and Wabash turnpike, and is a plain brick structure. It was built by a man named Elias Thomas in the year 1850, and by him was used as a residence. No one knew of this being a place of refuge for slaves until recently a new family moved in, and an examination revealed the vault for secret "passengers" en route for Canada. The foundation of the house is sunken deep into the ground, forming a sort of basement. This cellar is divided into two compartments by a stone wall. One side is entered by a door, and the other apparently is without an aperture. A trap-door in the floor above, however, which was always covered by a carpet, gave easy means of access, and many colored men were let down into the depths of the mysterious cellar while on their way from the South to Canada.

WE HAVEN'T a great deal of use for Territorial governors. They come in handy once and awhile, when some outbreak takes place, and otherwise the use of their official signature is of small importance. When not needed, they are about the most worthless lumber we have on hand; but when they are needed, it is an emergency that calls loudly for their presence. These remarks are prompted by the fact that one John C. Fremont, governor of Arizona, has not been seen in the neighborhood of that Territory for some months. Ordinarily John could safely absent himself in Europe on full pay and the Territory would continue to thrive under the affliction, but it so happens that within the past few weeks the redskins have made their presence felt and have indulged in all manner of illegal liberties with the poor white man's scalp. Mr. Fremont is beginning to get old now and his capacities for serving his country in positions of honor and trust are fast becoming limited. He should recall this fact. There is no impropriety in Fremont's hanging about Wall street and dabbling in mining stocks so long as his constituency remains

safe; but common decency requires his presence at the post of duty the moment the tocsin of war is sounded. The ordinary mind will fall to see at a glance just why it is that John C. Fremont, sworn to perform certain important duties, and liberally paid therefore, can reconcile it to his sense of public honor to pitch his tent in Wall street, while the people placed under his charge are crying to be saved from a merciless foe. If we remember correctly, this same John P. Fremont parts his hair in the middle, and was the first Republican candidate for the Presidency. On the strength of these two important facts he has ever since been a pensioner on his native land, and, like every other "original Republican," he looks upon all this license and distinction as a matter of course, and feels that his only duty is to render as small an equivalent as he possibly can.

The time has about arrived to pull these supernumerary old frauds up with a stiff rein. John C. Fremont is one of them. This country has outgrown the notion that pure sentiment is entitled to a salary. It can't countenance the idea that because a man was conspicuous thirty years ago, he is authorized to be lazy at Government expense to-day. Fremont is called the pathfinder. Let him find his path back to Arizona and attend to business he is paid to transact.

GEN. JAMES, of the P. O. Department, may safely be styled a great man. So great, indeed, that he seizes the first opportunity to inform his poor, weak official chief that he is a civil-service reformer. He forgets, in that moment of self-adulation, that the President was scarcely able to take chicken broth, and would naturally suffer from the shock of learning that one James had undertaken the job of civil-service reform. This statement was cut from the same piece of cloth as that twin statement he made in the sick-room, about benefiting the country to the extent of a million and a-half per annum on the Star-note savings. Both were malicious and diabolical misrepresentations. This word is longer than "lies," and means more in this connection, because it implies a direct purpose and intent to mislead.

For instance, this talented misleader has lately made the official announcement that every promotion in his Department should be made by competitive examination, and that each new appointment should be made on the same basis. The most competent clerk of the third class should receive the first vacancy that occurred in the fourth class. Whenever a small vacuum, like a \$1,000 clerkship, occurs, this great man mounts his battlements and calls together the army of applicants for examination. Whenever a large fat plum, like an \$1,800 clerkship, presents itself, this great man sends private word to some New York friend of the fact, and this New York friend packs his valise, is sworn in, placed over the heads of experienced men, and all without any examination at all. Among recent appointments made by this great man is one Byron W. Adsit, of Watertown, N. Y., editor, and friend of said James and of said James' chief clerk. Mr. Adsit is all right. Nobody envies him the place, but his appointment was in violation of said James' own ukase, and his words to a credulous President were a glaring inaccuracy.

The Man Who Stole a Red-Hot Stove.
Spellman is the man who several years ago made a reputation almost national by the most audacious piece of thievery on record. It was in the winter time, and Spellman, happening along Wash street, near Seventh, dropped into a colored lady's kitchen. The lady was out. The fire in the stove was burning, and there was a gunny-sack lying near by. Spellman took the gunny-sack and then he took the stove, a small one—and he put it in the gunny-sack and meandered off. The woman came home and she saw the stove and the dim distance with the stove and the sack slung over his shoulder. She gave chase, and she nabbed Joseph and held him until the police came and took him to the station. This was the first authenticated case on record of a thief being mean enough to steal a red-hot stove.

Kirkwood's Reform.
Secretary Kirkwood, of the Interior Department, doesn't believe in civil-service reform. It is evident that he does not from his appointments when he went into office. For instance, he gave one man a \$2,000 position who could barely write his name and could not spell one word correctly. He had done some artesian services, however, which, according to Kirkwood, fits a man for any position under the Government.

Important to Lovers.
Long Island is the great centre of the "pickling" trade of this country. One establishment alone has taken a contract to deliver, this year, 32,000,000 pickled cucumbers. The price agreed upon is \$1 per thousand. It is said the yield of cucumbers is 100,000 per acre.

Off for the Summer.
Mr. Howard has taken his summer vacation, in company with his mistress. Exactly which part of the globe he has selected for his tour is not known. It is natural, however, after the exciting bustle and strain of the last few weeks, that he should select some quiet, retired spot, where he is least likely to be annoyed by howling myriads of a despotic government.

Bad All Around.
Mr. Henry Gay tells the Dublin, Ga., Gazette that he had a dog bitten by a snake last week that died a short while after. The carcass of the dead dog was attacked by the vultures, and every one that ate of the flesh was also killed.

Two Birds With One Stone.
While the good people are praying for the recovery of the President, they might edge in a few words for ruin. It couldn't do any harm.

Western Society Event.
The first baby mule ever born on the Public Square yesterday attracted a large crowd of spectators.

Perpetual Motion.
The nearest approach to perpetual motion that has been discovered is rent. Day and night it keeps going on and never stops.

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